GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2805
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
MINIMUM WAGES TO LABOURERS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure minimum wages to the labourers who are working in private companies; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure basic minimum facilities to the labourers working in these companies?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR)

(a): The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides for payment of minimum wages to the workers engaged by the employers including the private companies in the scheduled employments. The enforcement of the Act is secured through Central and State enforcement machineries. The officers of these machineries conduct regular inspections and advise the employers to make payment of shortfall of wages whenever they come across any case of non-payment or less payment of minimum wages to the workers. In cases of non-adherence to the advice, legal and penal actins are initiated against the defaulting employers in pursuance of the provisions of the Act.

(b): Besides ensuring the payment of minimum wages to the workers, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and Rules made thereunder provide for fixing number of hours for a normal working day, timely payment of wages, extra wages for overtime, filing claims for non-payment or less payment of minimum wages, issue of wage books or slips etc. to the workers.